

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
/058 W

-----210320Z 118105 /66

R 201613Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6225
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 0277

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CU, CS, PFOR
SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN-CUBAN CONSULAR AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS IN 1977

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT ODUBER HAS STATED PUBLICLY THAT GOCR IS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING CONSULAR RELATIONS AND OPENING COMMERCIAL OFFICES WITH CUBA. ODUBER TOLD AMBASSADOR PRIVATELY THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN IN 1977. LEGISLATORS OF DIVERSE POLITICAL PERSUASIONS AGREE THAT SOME TYPE OF OFFICIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO WILL BE A REALITY SHORTLY. END SUMMARY.

2. PRO-GOVERNMENT DAILY EXCELSIOR REPORTED JANUARY 17 PRESIDENT ODUBER'S REMARKS THAT THE GOCR IS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF RE-ESTABLISHING CONSULAR RELATIONS AND OPENING COMMERCIAL OFFICES WITH CUBA. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, ODUBER INDICATED THAT THE GOCR IS PROCEEDING SLOWLY AND THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES FOR THE TIME BEING.

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3. EXCELSIOR INTERVIEWED A NUMBER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES AND FOUND THAT LEGISLATORS OF VARIOUS POLITICAL STRIPES ACCEPT THE IDEA OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA, EITHER FULL OR JUST COMMERCIAL. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY VICE-PRESIDENT ELIAS SOLEY-SOLER NOTED THAT COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE EXISTED FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS. INVARIABLY TRADE

WAS CITED AS THE REASON OFFICIAL RELATIONS SHOULD OR WILL BE RESUMED SHORTLY. SOME DEPUTIES SUPPORT THE UNCONDITIONAL REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH HAVANA; OTHERS STATED THAT ISSUE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

4. ON JANUARY 18, PRESIDENT ODUBER TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT COSTA RICA AND CUBA WOULD OPEN COMMERCIAL OFFICES AND ESTABLISH CONSULAR RELATIONS IN 1977.

5. COMMENT: ODUBER'S REMARKS, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, ARE NOT SURPRISING; THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS OF MOVEMENT IN THIS DIRECTION OVER THE PAST YEAR. COSTA RICA SENSES A CHANGE IN US POLICY TOWARD CUBA AND DOES NOT WANT TO BE BEHIND THE US. NEITHER DOES IT WANT TO BE TOO MUCH IN FRONT. FORMAL COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND BILATERAL TRADE OFFICES, TO BE FOLLOWED LATER BY CONSULAR RELATIONS, IS THE MOST PROBABLE SEQUENCE.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, CONSULAR SERVICES, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANJO00277
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770022-0477
Format: TEL
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770132/aaaabcp.gel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c2e307d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3546984
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COSTA RICAN-CUBAN CONSULAR AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS IN 1977
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, CU, CS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c2e307d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009